



BLUEGRASS QUARTET

Country Current the premier country-bluegrass group from The United States Navy Band in Washington, D.C., showcases a four-member acoustic ensemble performing traditional, contemporary and original compositions. Former Country Current director Master Chief Musician Bill Emerson established the ensemble in 1989.

The bluegrass group began playing to standing-room only audiences in libraries and concert halls in the Washington, D.C. area. Soon after, the group received national attention on TNN's "Nashville Now," WWVA's "Wheeling Jamboree," and at Opryland Park.

The quartet performed with the late Bill Monroe in a televised ceremony honoring the "Father of Bluegrass" in his home town of Rosine, Ky. in 1995. The group performed at the "Winterhawk" festival in Hillsdale, N.Y. in 1998, 1997, and 1996. In 1997 the quartet performed at the International Bluegrass Music Awards Show in Louisville, Ky., and with Rhonda Vincent at the 18th Annual Bluegrass and Chili Festival in Tulsa, Okla. They also appeared at the "Wintergrass 1996" festival in Tacoma and at the 1994 International Bluegrass Music Association Convention "Showcase" in Owensboro, Ky. They performed at the 1994 "Festival of the Bluegrass" in Lexington, Ky.; the Thomas Point Beach Bluegrass Festival in Brunswick, Maine; the Southernmost Bluegrass Festival in Key West, Fla.; the Desert Oasis Bluegrass Festival in Fallon, Nev.; the Spirit of the Suwanee in Live Oak, Fla.; plus festivals in Rocky Gap, Pa.; Grass Valley, Calif.; and Doyle Lawson's Family Bluegrass Festival. In 1992 they performed at the Swedish Army Tattoo in Stockholm.

Members include **Senior Chief Musician Wayne C. Taylor**, chief-in-charge, emcee, guitar and lead vocals; **Chief Musician Keith M. Arneson**, banjo, guitar and vocals; and **Musicians First Class Joseph L. Wheatley**, string bass and vocals; and **Patrick J. White**, fiddle, mandolin and vocals.